



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

Canada

Meeting of the Canada/Mexico/U.S. Trilateral Committee 2018 Country Update: Canada

XXIII Trilateral Committee for
Wildlife and Ecosystem Conservation and Management
National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Sue Milburn-Hopwood
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada
April 2018



Outline

- Canadian Wildlife Service – Part of Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Government of Canada Priorities
- Species at Risk
- Protection & Conservation of Canada's Biodiversity
- Budget 2018
- CWS Change Agenda
- Modernization Amendments to Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations



Canadian Wildlife Service - Part of Environment and Climate Change Canada

- Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) was created in 1947 as the Dominion Wildlife Service
- Approximately 550 employees
- Additional employees working on conservation issues in Science and Technology and Enforcement Branches of ECCC
- Branch employees located across the country



Ontario region staff doing monitoring / fieldwork



Canadian Wildlife Service - Part of Environment and Climate Change Canada

- 2016: CWS elevated within our Departmental hierarchy, reflecting our large and complex mandate
- 2017 and 2018: Building a Canadian Nature Agenda with key partners
- 2018: Nature a key item in Budget 2018



Polar Bear at Bylot Island Credit Christian Marcotte



Government of Canada Priorities: Ministerial Mandate Letter (2015)

- **Species at Risk**

- Enhance protection of Canada's endangered species by responding quickly to the advice of scientists and completing robust species at risk recovery plans in a timely way

- **Protected areas:**

- Develop Canada's National Parks system, as well as manage and expand National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries
- Work with the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to increase the proportion of Canada's marine and coastal areas that are protected...to 10% by 2020...

- **Environmental assessment:**

- Review Canada's environmental assessment process to regain public trust and help get resources to market and introduce new fair processes...

- **Protect key freshwater ecosystems**

- Renew commitment to protect the Great Lakes, the St. Lawrence River Basin and the Lake Winnipeg Basin

- **Indigenous Peoples**

- ...renewed, nation-to-nation relationship with Indigenous Peoples, based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation, and partnership



Species at Risk

- Take action on priority species
 - Boreal Caribou
 - Southern Mountain Caribou
 - Western Chorus Frog
 - Wood Bison



- Concentrate effort on focal areas, priority species, and key sectors and threats using integrated multi-species approaches
- Implement new listing policy
- Continue focus on drafting and publishing recovery strategies for species at risk



Protection & Conservation of Canada's Biodiversity- Marine & Coastal Protected Areas

- Canada set a target of 5% marine protected areas by 2017, and 10% by 2020
- Canada achieved its 2017 target, and now has 7.7%, in part through the use of other conservation measures (marine refuges)
- ECCC currently conserves 0.34%, mainly consisting of our terrestrial areas with marine coverage given importance to sea birds



Protection & Conservation of Canada's Biodiversity- Terrestrial areas and in-land waters

- Canada's terrestrial target is to conserve at least 17% by 2020; we are currently at 10.5%.
- To close gap, Canada has established a pan-Canadian initiative called the Pathway to Canada target 1 co-led by the Minister of ECC and the Alberta Minister of Environment and Parks and Climate Change
- Aims to conserve at least 17 per cent of Canada's land and freshwater through a network of parks, protected and conserved areas, and other conservation measures by 2020.
- Pathway report will include guidance for meeting Target and promote new approach to conservation in Canada, one that relies on collective actions and partnerships among various levels of governments, Indigenous organizations, non-profit organizations and the private sector (to be released at the end of May 2018).
- The new conservation approach will further help set the stage for future targets post 2020.



Budget 2018 and Nature

- To support Canada's biodiversity and protect species at risk, **\$1.3 billion over five years**, has been allocated
- Includes \$500 million to create the Nature Fund in partnership with corporate, not-for profit, provincial, territorial and other partners.
- The remaining funding will:
 - Increase the federal capacity to **protect species at risk** and put in place new recovery initiatives for priority species, areas and threats to our environment.
 - **Expand national wildlife areas and migratory bird sanctuaries.**
 - **Increase the federal capacity to manage protected areas**, including national parks.
 - Continue implementation of the *Species at Risk Act* by supporting assessment, listing, recovery planning and action planning activities.
 - **Establish a coordinated network of conservation areas** working with provincial, territorial and Indigenous partners.



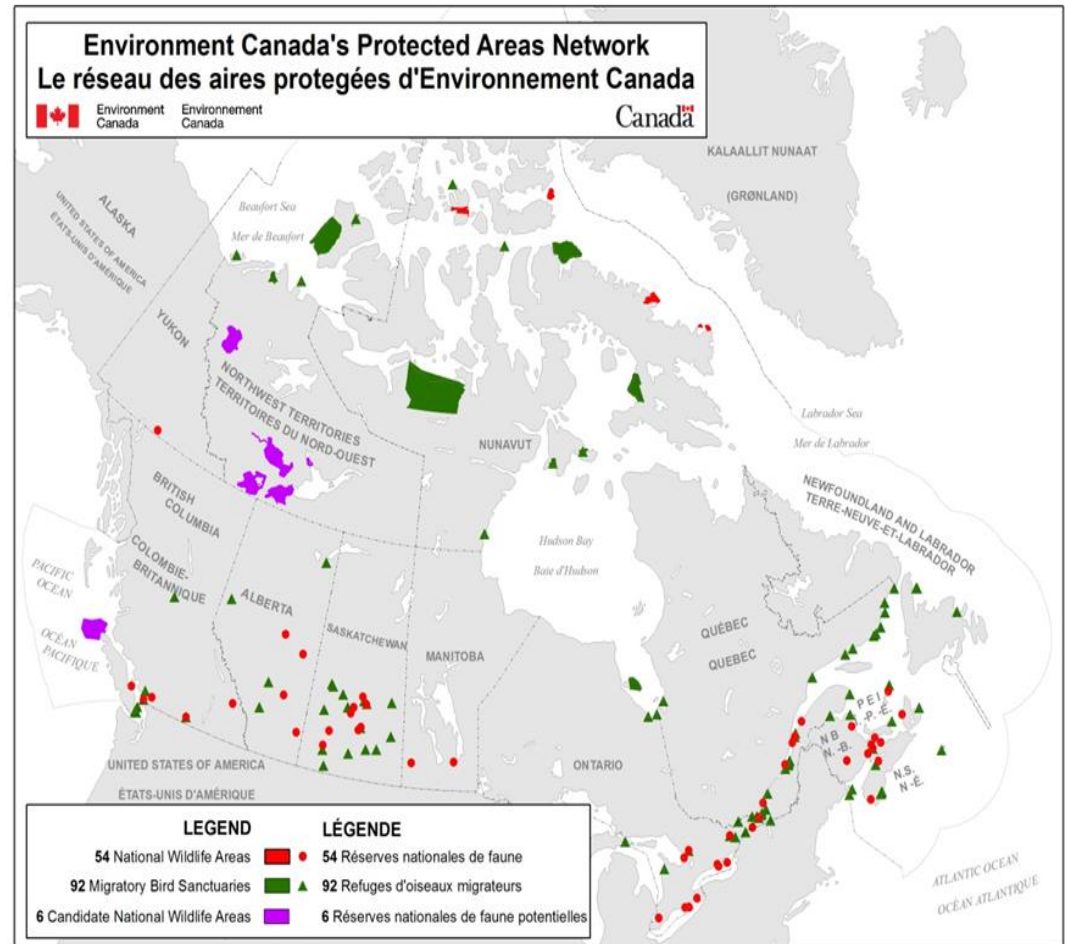
Budget 2018 and Nature

- \$500M allocated to Canada Nature Fund
- Will incent and support the efforts of others whose participation is critical to achieving success in the nature conservation area; in particular to enhance collaboration and partnership on protected areas and species at risk.
- The Nature Fund will also provide a mechanism for leveraging contributions of another \$500M from partners such as provinces, territories, Indigenous communities, philanthropic foundations, private sector companies and non-governmental organizations



Expanding Federal Network of Protected & Conserved Areas

- Budget 2018 will support the establishment of federal parks and protected areas
- Funds will encourage the establishment of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas by Indigenous, provincial and territorial government as well as other conserved areas by a broader spectrum of conservation organizations



CWS Change Agenda

- Implement Nature Agenda announced in Budget 2018
- Other Program Innovation and Modernization:
 - Developing a Risk-based Framework for CWS decision-making
 - E-permitting & Service Fees
 - Migratory Bird modelling and monitoring innovation
 - More efficient recovery strategy process
 - Modernization of Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations



Prince Leopold Island – Migratory Bird Sanctuary



Permit Fee Changes

- Environment and Climate Change Canada is proposing to increase the services fees to both the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and the Stamp which have not changed since 1998 & 1991.
 - Migratory game bird hunting permit (increase from \$8.50 to \$14.00 by 2021)
 - Canadian wildlife habitat conservation stamp (increase from \$8.50 to \$14.00 by 2021)
 - Potentially other permits, including Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- ECCC is considering options for fee increases to be implemented over a period of time; proposal will be revised taking feedback received from public consultation underway
- Increased fees used to support conservation efforts through Wildlife Habitat Canada (Stamp) and for program cost recovery for waterfowl surveys, harvest survey, permitting, etc. (Permit)
- Increased revenues will free up core funding which will be reinvested in program (non game bird monitoring and conservation).



Modernization Amendments to Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations (MBR) of the Migratory Bird Convention Act

- There are several components to the modernization effort
 - Updating references to Indigenous People,
 - Improving the management of hunting
 - i) A new concept of possession and clarifying and simplifying labelling requirements;
 - ii) A prohibition against abandonment of birds contrary to the purpose of the hunting permit; and,
 - iii) Making it easier for youth and persons who have not previously hunted before to partake in hunting.
- Anticipate “modernized” regulations to be in place in 2019

